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ENP01FTB05031 3/00. VCA=E/R4-71 URU, XNT, AVN/AVIA-A/V, OPER-V, TRNG-I. NORTH
VIETNAMESE AIR SUMMARY FOR 03/1700Z - 04/1700Z MARCH 1971
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((ALL TIMES ZULU)) PART ONE, HIGHLIGHTS A. SUMMARY 1. BATTALION 83 OF THE 238TH SAM REGIMENT REPORTS SUCCESSFUL SHOOTDOWN OF A U.S. AIRCRAFT. 2. UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT VIOLATE NVN AIRSPACE. 3. SOVIET IL-18/75460 DEPARTS HANOI ON RETURN LEG OF UNSCHEDULED FLIGHT. 4. HON GAY RADAR STATION DISPLAYS PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF SCHEDULED BUFFALO HUNTER MISSION. B. DETAILS 1. BATTALION 83 (LOCATED AT VN411/17-06N 106-47E) OF THE NORTH VIETNAMESE 238TH SAM REGIMENT (HEADQUARTERED AT CAM QUANG) LAUNCHED A SINGLE SA-2 MISSILE AT 0045 AND WAS REPORTEDLY SUCCESSFUL IN DOWNING AN UNIDENTIFIED U.S. AIRCRAFT FLYING ALONG THE DMZ NEAR 17-00N 106-50E. THE BATTALION WAS INITIALLY REFLECTED IN COMMUNICATIONS AT 0040 TRACKING VARIOUS AIRCRAFT IN THE DMZ AREA. A FEW MOMENTS LATER, AS A FLIGHT OF TWO UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT APPROACHED WITHIN BATTALION 83'S STRIKING RANGE, ALL OTHER TRACKS WERE DROPPED. AT 0045 A SPEAKER AT THE BATTALION STATED THAT ONE MISSILE HAD BEEN LAUNCHED. SHORTLY THEREAFTER THE REGIMENTAL CONTROLLER DECLARED THAT THE TARGET HAD BEEN DESTROYED. DURING THE 0100 HOUR, BATTALION 83 PERSONNEL REPORTED THAT THE PILOT HAD ESCAPED AFTER IGNITING A FLARE. NO OPERATIONAL DATA IS AVAILABLE TO CONFIRM THIS INCIDENT. ((2. VCK/R02-71, 042250, AND FOLLOW-UPS THERETO)) 2. BETWEEN 0604 AND 0646 NVN AIR SURVEILLANCE FACILITIES REFLECTED TWO UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT OVER THE GULF OF TONKIN WITHIN THE NVN 12NM LIMIT APPROXIMATELY 40 NM NORTHEAST OF VINH. NO NVN WEAPONS REACTION WAS NOTED. ((REF 2/00/VCK/R46-71 040920)) 3. SOVIET IL-18/75460, WHICH FLEW A NON-SCHEDULED FLIGHT INTO HANOI/GIA LAM ON 03 MARCH, DEPARTED HANOI/GIA LAM AT 2351 EN ROUTE TO CALCUTTA ON A RETURN TRIP TO MOSCOW.

((3/00/VCA=E/R3-71, 042115, AND 2701/ROVCA/R2-71, 040135)) 4. THE HON GAY RADAR STATION (VZ1418, 20-59N 107-11E) PASSED AN ALERT MESSAGE AT 0515 INDICATING PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF AN IMPENDING U.S. LOW ALTITUDE RECONNAISSANCE DRONE FLIGHT. A BUFFALO HUNTER MISSION WAS SCHEDULED FOR AN 0620 LAUNCH, BUT THE LAUNCH WAS CANCELLED DUE TO BAD WEATHER AND THE LAUNCH VEHICLE WAS RECALLED. THE ALERT MESSAGE PASSED FROM HON GAY MAY HAVE BEEN BASED ON THE PRESENCE OF THE LAUNCH VEHICLE PRIOR TO ITS

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RECALL. PART TWO, ROUTINE ACTIVITY A. AIR ACTIVITY A MIG-21 PILOT AT PHUC YEN WAS NOTED ON STRIP ALERT AND FIVE MIG-17 PILOTS WERE ENGAGED IN COMMUNICATIONS CHECKS AT KIEN AN AIRFIELD. NO OTHER NVN AIR ACTIVITY WAS NOTED. B. SAM/AAA ACTIVITY SURVEILLANCE OF THE GULF OF TONKIN WAS MAINTAINED BY UNIDENTIFIED TRACKING FACILITIES OF THE 267TH AND 285TH SAM REGIMENTS. DURING THE 0600 AND 0800 HOURS A TOTAL OF FIVE UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT WERE TRACKED OVER THE GULF BY ELEMENTS OF THE 267TH REGIMENT. TWO UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT WERE TRACKED OVER THE GULF DURING THE 0700 HOUR BY AN UNIDENTIFIED BATTALION OF THE 285TH REGIMENT. C. RADAR ACTIVITY - NTR D. COMMUNICATIONS ACTIVITY 1

Non - Responsive

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